

compound having more than two epoxy groups, and (c) 0.01 to 5 parts by weight of a metal salt of a carboxylic acid as a coupling reaction catalyst to a temperature greater than the melting point of said polyester, and secondly heat foaming said modified polyester resin using a foaming agent.

A¹
2. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a foamed article comprising; heating in an extruder a mixture comprising (a) 100 parts by weight of a recycled product of a recovered polyethylene terephthalate-based aromatic polyester molded product, (b) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a mixture as a coupling agent of 0 to 100% by weight of a compound having two epoxy groups in the molecule and 100 to 0% by weight of a compound having more than two epoxy groups, and (c) 0.01 to 5 parts by weight of a metal salt of a carboxylic acid as a coupling reaction catalyst, to a temperature greater than the melting point of said polyester to make a modified polyester resin having increased molecular weight, melt viscosity and swell; injecting a foaming agent into said modified polyester resin in said extruder; and heat foaming the modified polyester resin.

A²
13. (Amended) A method for producing a foamed article comprising; heating in an extruder a mixture comprising (a) 100 parts by weight of an undried recycled product of a recovered polyethylene terephthalate-based aromatic polyester molded product melted at a temperature above the melting point thereof, and deaerated to less than -600 mmHg, (b) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a mixture as a coupling agent of 0 to 100% by weight of a compound having two epoxy groups in the molecule and 100 to 0% by weight of a compound having more than two epoxy groups, and (c) 0.01 to 5 parts by weight of a metal salt of a carboxylic acid as a

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 09/787,627

A²
coupling reaction catalyst to a temperature greater than the melting point of said polyester to make a modified polyester resin having increased swell of 5 to 200% and JIS melt flow rate (MFR) of not more than 50 g/10 minutes measured at 280°C; injecting a foaming agent into said modified polyester resin in said extruder wherein the foaming agent is dissolved in the modified polyester resin under pressure and cooling; and releasing the modified polyester resin into the atmosphere through a die of said extruder.
